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UNCLAS ATHENS 000592

SIPDIS

COAST GUARD FOR MANAGER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAINING
DZIMMERMAN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EWWT](#) [GR](#)

SUBJECT: HELLENIC COAST GUARD REQUESTS TRAINING WITH U.S.
COAST GUARD

¶11. (U) This is an action request. Please see para 4.

¶12. (U) Summary: During a February 23rd meeting with Ambassador, Greek Minister of Merchant Marine Kefaloyiannis presented a list of training requests for the Hellenic Coast Guard (HCG). Ambassador informed Kefaloyiannis that Post would coordinate with the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG). End Summary.

¶13. (U) During a February 23rd meeting with Ambassador, Greek Minister of Merchant Marine Kefaloyiannis (other issues reported septel), Kefaloyiannis indicated his desire that the HCG to receive training with the USCG in a variety of areas (para 5 infra). The HCG is structurally very similar to the USCG and could greatly benefit from the opportunity to receive extended training through USCG programs.

¶14. (U) Action Request. Post requests USCG assistance in establishing a training program to meet the initial basic requests of the HCG, with the option for more advanced training to follow. Post would appreciate all assistance in determining the timing and cost of training possibilities so as to be able to provide the HCG with options and pricing information for such training. End Action Request.

SPECIFIC TRAINING REQUESTS

¶15. (U) The HCG requested the following areas for training: Safety of Navigation; Protection of Life at Sea; Search and Rescue; Maritime Law enforcement (illegal immigration control, narcotics interdiction and interdiction of terrorist infiltration); Port security (ISPS code); training in the use of communications gear, night vision equipment, aids to navigation, aviation, boat/ship operations, health and safety, machinery maintenance (helicopter in particular), port safety and pollution response, professional leadership, ship transfer training and weapons maintenance.

¶16. (U) The HCG is also requesting the opportunity to send six HCG personnel to the 11th USCG district training facility in Petaluma, CA for an intensive course of training to be determined by consultations between the HCG and USCG.

¶17. (U) The HCG is also suggesting an exchange of officers, with an HCG officer serving as liaison with the USCG headquarters in Washington, and a USCG officer to serve in Athens.
RIES